



PARASPARA

Love on the

They speak out:

# Child Rights Diary

*From Bangalore*

interview with the heads of NGOs working with Street and  
Working Children

# Child Rights Diary

From Bangalore

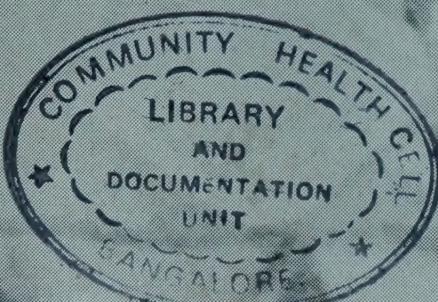
The conscience of the world today is rocked with more and more people coming to realize the tragedy of child exploitation. Can any society boast of its children living out a living on the mean streets? It is more apt to say that children are the most recent entry into the vicious circle of exploitation. We must remember that they are also the most defenceless of creatures.

India, though, has ratified the UN Convention on Child Rights, its track record has not been very encouraging.

A unified effort by all is the need of the hour.

There are a group of 9 Voluntary Organisations (REDS, CWC, BOSCO, CACL, ASHADEEP, DEEDS, ST. LUKE'S, KSCCW and MYTHRI) involved with street and working children in Bangalore, trying to do their mite. It was a thrilling experience for us to have interviews with the heads of all these organisations as to what they are doing, their hopes and fears.

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## COMMUNITY HEALTH CELL

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# REDS

## RAGPICKERS' EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY

Mr. Joe Paul

*How has the recent emphasis on Child Rights affected your general planning and implementation?*

We too are concerned about Child Rights. But there is no clarity of thought or clarity of action.

*Is what you have said pertaining to your organisation or in general?*

I am speaking in general.

*What is the awareness among the staff about Child Rights?*

We at REDS, have so far been concentrating on the child. But now we feel we have to gradually shift the focus to the root - the family. There is a need to involve the family more - even if they are very poor. We should make the parents realise their responsibility. This would also help in empowering the family. The necessary inputs can be given from REDS.

*You mean to say, Child Rights should begin from the family?*

Yes. Whatever other intervention programmes are organised, they all will be useless, **unless the family is empowered.**

*Can we say at the moment that neither the NGOs nor the government and other interested people have taken the right strategy?*

The Government has the boundant duty to protect its citizens and also provide the right environment for the children to grow. But the NGOs and the government often end up as do-gooders or as welfare agents. There is an urgent need to get back to the family.

*What is the level of awareness among your children with regard to their rights?*

It can be explained in two ways. On the one hand, the child is aware of what he is going through. See, these children observe other children from better backgrounds - well dressed, accompanied by parents, and going to school, going for shopping, playing in the home yards etc. On the other hand, some of them do not want to face the reality or even talk about it. They just suppress it. When, we here at REDS - try to bring this topic for discussion - the response is varied. Generally, the age group above 15 years is more responsive than the ones below it.

*Are there any instances when certain children spoke out boldly about Child Rights?*

There have been instances when some children raised voice against their own parents, the government or other institutions like the School etc.

*As you know, the Child Rights are generally divided into 4 groups. Let us take one by one. How is the aspect of **survival** taken care of at REDS?*

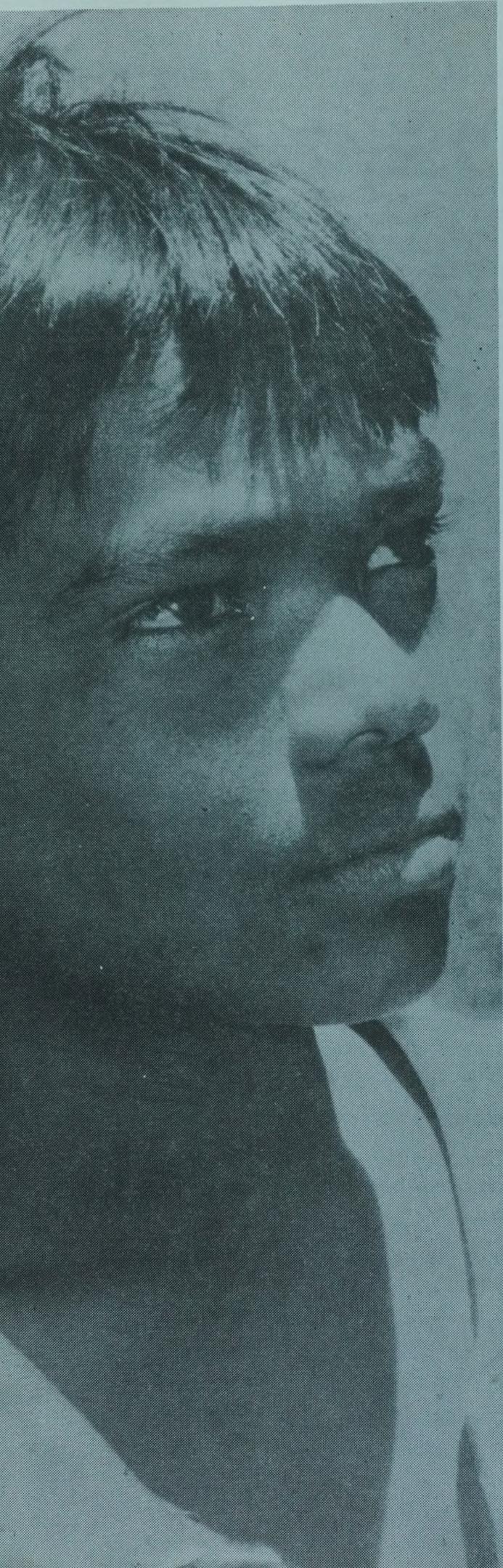
We, here, try to have a holistic approach to the aspect of '**survival**'. The basic necessities of food, shelter, clothing are provided. But together with that the other aspects of psychological, emotional, spiritual, economical etc., are also provided. A boy like Thimmappa, who was earlier at BOSCO, today is very confident and ready to face challenges in life.

*How many children are being fed here daily?*

As of today, there are thirty two children who are residing here. They are given nutritious food.

*How do you take care of the aspect of '**protection**'?*

Though, this place seem to be well protected, it is not so. There are many limitations in this area. So also, the streets we visit. There is lot



of harassment from the retailers, police, etc. I should say that we have to improve a lot in this respect.

*Is it due to lack of staff?*

No. It is not due to lack of staff but due to lack of managerial ability. If one is incharge of the Centre, he/she should be so alert as to know everything that is happening around - so as to diffuse any anti-social behaviour, or even bigger boys harassing the smaller ones etc.

*What about Protection on the street?*

What is felt is that the aspect of advocacy should be more emphasised on the street. Again, I should go back to the idea of family. Protection is primarily the duty of the parents. We have some parents, even single parents, who come on a Sunday and take their child out for a day of enjoyment. Then, there is the police who should play a positive role. Instead of instilling fear, they should instill security in their minds.

*What do you say about the third aspect - Development?*

The talk of the day at REDS is **development**. It has been a thrilling experience. We have made attempts individually as well as collectively in this regard. It is based on, the same old maxim - teach a man to fish rather than give him a fish. Qualitatively, we have made much progress in this regard. We have been able to instill into them the idea of 'economy'. How to earn enough for their own livelihood - through developing their own entrepreneurial abilities. Once they are able to understand this concept - the rest will follow. So also, once we give that 'security' which the child desires so much, the child will be able to integrate socially, economically, with the parents, with the society and other institutions.

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*From this aspect, is every staff working as a team?*

Most of us are aware of the need to work as a team and

they are happy. Of course, we are making lot of errors but at the same time we are learning also. But the overall outcome is very satisfactory.

*You may be aware of the concept of 'Resilience'. How do you integrate this concept into your programme of development?*

From my experience, the concept of resilience is very much applicable to the waste picking children. I would like to view the concept from the idea of 'lethargy'. The waste picking children become rough and tough due to the different situations. Their life takes a colour of 'lethargy'. Lethargy would mean an attitude of indifference and lack of initiative etc. This lethargy also makes them resilient.

*How have you included the idea of 'Participation'?*

REDS is also aware of the importance of the idea of participation, though, not everyone. I would interpret participation as a 'two way traffic'. We do not want to be messiahs - a 'do gooder'. Unless the child takes responsibility for what he is doing, there is no growth. We want to make the child independent.

*Can you be more specific? ie., are the children given opportunity to express their opinions...*

For example - if I want this place to be cleaned, I call everyone and suggest to them - see - this is your place - you are using this Centre all the time. Why don't we keep it clean? So they themselves appoint a leader and the work is divided. I also give them an incentive. Giving incentive is very important to promote participation.

*How do you assess the attitude of the government in regard to the NGOs and even the promotion of Child Rights?*

Don't call me a pessimist - but the fact is that merely sanctioning some funds or some schemes, the government is trying to wash its hands off. But the government should involve

the NGOs even at the policy level. The government has an obligation to implement the Child Rights.

*Lot of things are being done to help the Children. But there is a feeling that something is preventing us from reaching the goal. Do you agree with me?*

See, REDS has gone through different phases. First was welfarism, secondly through development. But still we feel that our activities are micro based. But lately, we have started to involve in Campaign Against Child Labour - which is macro based - based on mass activism.

Our participation in this network will help us to find answer to the other national and internationally related issues also.

## CACL

### CAMPAIGN AGAINST CHILD LABOUR - KARNATAKA

#### Mr. Solomon J. P.

*How has the recent emphasis on Child Rights influenced your planning and implementation?*

Even before talking about Child Rights, I would like to ask a question: "**Child Rights according to whom**" - the UN or the NGOs or the Child or the family? When you talk of Child Rights in relation to the child - you are asking something very big. Is the Child Rights different from Human Rights? The issue of Human Rights is itself riddled with contradictions.

Paulo Freire, talks of education as a liberative concept. When we talk of rights - the feeling we get is that there is on the one hand one who is asking for the rights and on the other, one who is giving it. There seems to be a clear separation. But rights and responsibilities are one and

the same. What one has to do is - assert one's rights rather than demanding them.

*What do you mean by 'contradiction involved in the Human Rights issue'?*

In a way, these declarations are made to maintain the status quo. There are larger issues at stake - like the concept of social justice itself. Let me ask: How is that an Indian's labour (Rs. 20/- per day) is considered much cheaper than that of an American's (\$10)? Aren't the people of the First World living from the people of the Third World? What is the logic behind the World trade? Is there any declaration from the UN against these injustices? I feel, all these declarations are an eye wash. The developmental intellectuals come together once in a while and set standards for the others.

*You are the State-Coordinator for the CACL? Is the CACL functioning as an alternative answer to the challenges you mentioned above?*

The CACL wants to eradicate Child Labour in India. It originated in 1993, at Bombay. Though India has ratified the UN Convention, its track record has been deplorable.

*Can we say that the government has done nothing?*

It may have brought out some documents and distributed few pamphlets. That's all.

*What is the CACL doing in Bangalore and Karnataka in general?*

We pressurised the political parties to include the issue of Child Labour in the recent Assembly Elections. The Janata Dal did include it in their election manifesto. But the way they are entertaining the multinationals, it seems that they will be worse than the Congress government.

*What about the recent document on the State Level Action for the children brought by the government?*

Yes. It was a good initiative. But it stopped

there. It lacked detailed planning. The government should try to involve as many people as possible while drafting a document.

*Is it not true that the government is more open to the NGOs now than before?*

It would be more right to say that some people in the government are more open. Generally speaking, the government is shirking away its accountability.

*What about the CACL network in Karnataka?*

CACL, first of all, is not a networking. It is a programme, a coalition, a movement. A network has its own drawbacks. In a movement, there are a few active members and a few passive members. They come together depending on what the focus is - at that point of time. If the issue is street children - the organisations in Bangalore dominate. If we are talking about policy formations, education etc. - more of research organisations, policy makers, bureaucrats etc. are involved.

*Can you say something more about the reach out of the CACL?*

There are at present 65 organisations involved in the programme. We are trying to form regional groups - like - North Karnataka, Central Karnataka etc., and take up issues locally involving the Panchayats. Recently, we had the signature campaign all over the state on the issue of Child Labour. We are also including other related issues like - that of women.

*But don't you think that the 'Family' is very important in this?*

If you closely examine the last few decades, you'll find that the Indian family has undergone drastic changes. Family is no more a unit of one mind and spirit. Families have become just a matter of convenience. The socio-economic system does not leave the family in peace. For example, the work schedule of the parents does not allow them to spend time with their children. Is there any time left to question -

**We are asking for a fundamental change in attitude. We don't want the government to become another Welfare Agency announcing schemes.**

**what is happening to the country's development?** So, I have serious doubts about saying that family is the focus of everything.

*How many children are taken care of or ensured Child Rights at MAYA?*

We work with about 100 children in a year. When we decide to work with a child - we follow him up giving him maximum possibilities. This, we do by co-ordinating with the staff of other organisations as well.

**What should be the one suggestion raised to the government?**

We are asking for a fundamental change in attitude. We don't want the government to become another Welfare Agency announcing schemes. See, the NGOs have been clamouring for shelters for street children. It has not been given. The Corporation has enough land to provide for programmes like the National games etc. The government should clearly spell out its priorities.

# BOSCO

**Fr. Varghese Pallipuram**

*How has the recent emphasis on Child Rights affected your planning and implementation?*

At various levels of our involvement with street children, we referred the term 'Child Rights'. Some of our staff were exposed to various Child Rights Workshops. Our own children also participated in Child Rights workshops. All our programmes are geared towards achieving the rights for these children. Of course, the conven-

tion on 'Rights of the Child' has given an added impetus in realising the 'Rights' for the children on the street.

*How much of awareness is there among the staff about Child Rights?*

They may not have a theoretical knowledge of Child Rights. But they are aware that some of the basic rights are denied to the street children. Those staff who attended Child Rights workshops have a better knowledge of Child Rights.

*What is the level of awareness about Child Rights among the children?*

Children are not very much aware of Child Rights, except those children who took part in Rally and in workshops. Some of them are aware that they have no voice anywhere and they are exploited by others.

*How are the following taken care of?*

- a) **Survival:** Some of the needy children are provided with food. Those who attend the educational programmes are also provided with one meal. Sick children are taken care of and they are provided with all the medical facilities. We also have 3 full-time shelters and some part-time shelters where these children can find themselves at home.
- b) **Protection:** We protect children from all exploitative situations. Advocacy component in BOSCO deals with cases where rights of these children are denied especially by the police.
- c) **Development:** 'Buddhivantha', our educational programme provides children to develop their literacy standard, helps in improving the job and ability in learning a trade and gives opportunity to develop the talents, personality and social behaviour. Some of our programmes like camps, picnics, cultural programmes help them to develop their personality.



d) **Participation:** Some of our children are sent outside to attend some meetings, seminars etc., where they have opportunity to discuss various issues. We also have some discussions with children where they can share their opinions. Children are also given freedom to choose the alternatives available to them once they come in contact with BOSCO.

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**Our approach is one of person-oriented. Street presence has become very important in our involvement.**

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*What do you say about the attitude of the government to your organisation?*

Some Government Departments like Police, Women and Child Welfare etc., are quite positive towards our work with street children. They render various supports to make our work more effective.

*Say something about your participation with C.A.C.L.?*

We believe that CACL can be a big force in pressurising the government to eradicate child labour. We have been involved with various activities of C.A.C.L.

*What is that which makes BOSCO stand out from other organisations?*

Our approach is one of person-oriented. Street presence has become very important in our involvement. We do have very many volunteers to help in the project. 'Buddhivantha' our educational programme for street children is also unique. We also train law enforcement machineries like police, Probation Officers in Remand Home and Certified Schools etc.

*Letters to the Editor are invited*

# ASHA DEEP

**Sr. Lorraine**

*What do you say about the girl children and their families?*

We had a survey of the families of these children. We realised that the families are not adequate to bring up the child. Soon after 3-4 months of starting the project we realised that we need to start a parallel project for the families' education, rehabilitation etc. It was a very challenging realization. So we have organised one or two workshops for the family - counselling, de-addiction programmes, etc.

But bringing about change in the family is a long term plan.

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*How many are on the staff?*

We are regularly three. Sometimes some volunteers also join us.

*Are they all aware of Child Rights?*

See, we are just at the beginning. The number of people involved is small. We want everyone to get the right spirit of the Project.

*Are the children aware of Child Rights?*

Yes. Through the educational programmes. Sometimes through short plays etc.

*What do you say about the aspect of protection?*

The girls do not face this problem very much, i.e., they are not harassed so much.

*What are the categories of girls you have?*

Beggars, ragpickers, wanderers and construction workers.

We have some bigger girls whom we have taken to save them from prostitution. Some of them have been placed in other institutions. One of them, we had employed as a cook. Another, we have helped to get married.

*What about the aspect of Development?*

Nine children are going to school. Some are sent to the boardings. Besides this, we also provide hygiene and health services, non-formal education, skill training, recreational facilities and psychological supports.

*Say something about the aspect of Participation?*

Yes, we take into consideration their ideas also. Sometimes through cultural programmes. They don't like to be addressed as street girls.

*Interaction with the government?*

We are yet to interact with the government.

*Do you interact with CACL?*

We are in contact with the CACL also.

**Sr. Benedicta**

*What is your idea about Child Rights?*

We want the children here to feel like the children anywhere else. In fact, the children attending School are responding very well. These children's language itself is not pleasing to the ears of other children. But some of the children came out in flying colours in studies, even much ahead of other children. Right now, the first and second ranks are held by our children. We are so pleased to see this progress.

*Why do the children take to the streets?*

Poverty and alcoholism of the parents.

*How many families have you taken for treatment?*



We have taken five families. One has dropped out.

*Which are the areas of your operation?*

Shivajinagar, Vasanthnagar, City Market, Sevanagar, Commercial Street, Kamaraj Road etc.

*If you were given a chance to speak to the CM, what would you ask him?*

I would ask about the Rights for the Child. Practically speaking, shelter and educational facilities for these children.

## DEEDS

**Mr. Thyagarajan**

*Can you say something in general about DEEDS and the work you are doing?*

We generally work in slums spread out in Bangalore. They are: Sathyanagar, Yeshwanthpur, Amalanagar etc.

Most of these people have migrated from other states. But it is the children who have been affected most. Obviously, the rights of the child are affected. We believe that it is education and rehabilitation that can help in regaining the child's dignity.

In our non-formal education centre we are providing not only literacy and skills but also opportunities to be a child. It prepares the child to enter the formal schools. There the child feels just like any other child.

*How far the parents are involved?*

We have meetings for mothers occasionally. We call it the Working Mothers Meet. If the child is sent to school, the income in the family is reduced. Therefore, programmes are organised so that this is taken care of. But most of the economic programmes are a failure because they do not know how to go about it.

In order to remedy this, we have introduced some programmes where they can take a small loan after depositing some money with us. Technical know-how

is provided through participative learning. Every 15 days, they present the account. Certain percentage is reduced as repayment of the loan. The repayment is progressing well.

Through this, we closely monitor the continuity of the child going to school. I am happy that our children are doing well at school.

So also we help in looking after the health of the family.

#### *What is the attitude of the government?*

To be frank, the CACL has taken a very serious initiative - Solomon and others - I really appreciate them. Very early in the morning, 3 O'clock, we went there (CM's residence). But he was not bothered to see us. Then he called only three of us. Then, he gave us an appointment for 2.00 p.m. But he saw us only at 5.00 p.m. Twice our appointment was shifted because Dilip Kumar came.... So he is giving importance to those things and not for children. When the budget came nothing was mentioned about Child Labour. I feel that the government is giving priority to industry, power and some kind of money making business. But they don't give priority to human development.

There is also lack of awareness about Child Rights. Most people think that the child goes to work because he/she is not able to study. They do not think how a child is loosing his/her rights.

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*How do you create awareness among your target group?*

We, in our Mothers Meeting and community leaders meeting do give instructions about child rights. So also, we organise rallies in the slums holding placards.

*What do you do in order to raise the awareness among your own staff regarding Child Rights?*

We do have study classes. I am now trying to get somebody from NCERT to train our personnel. The non-formal classes are handled by teachers from the locality itself.

*Can you speak about any particular cases?*

Some of the girls go to work in the Khodays Breweries' factory. They join there to wash the bottle and thus earn some livelihood. But they have to stand in water the whole day and come home with swollen legs. **If one breaks a bottle - the punishment is to stand for a long time with one crate of bottles on the head. They are afraid to come and tell these things at home.** The parents do not enquire about their problems at all. In fact, we forced this girl to speak about it in our meeting.

In the process of empowerment there are three phases: First, is to empower the child. Secondly, to empower the child through the parents. And thirdly the empowerment through the community.

One of the girls, Lakshmi, who was working as a domestic servant on Double Road, Bangalore - she has to stay for longer time if there is some party in the house. She has no time for herself. When she sleeps, her whole body pains. Of course, to do all kinds of jobs from scrubbing the floor to buying the bottles from the liquor shop.

# KSCCW

**KARNATAKA STATE COUNCIL FOR  
CHILD WELFARE**

**Mr. Karakurappa**

*How has the recent emphasis on Child Rights affected your organisation?*

In response to the pressing needs of neglected children we have started a non-formal education centre. The teachers also visit the homes apart from preparing them for formal school. Those children who do not want to study in schools are sent for vocational training. So also we have recreational, medical and other facilities.

*What is the awareness about Child Rights among the staff?*

We are 25 on the staff. Orientation programme is held once in six months. In that, required information is imparted. So also, the children are educated in Child Rights.

*How is your interaction with the government?*

It is very cordial. In fact, the government officials have been helpful in getting admissions to schools - so also to vocational schools. Last year 288 children were admitted to schools and 78 children for vocational training. For the coming year 400 children have been identified.

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*What is your interaction with CACL?*

We have been attending the meetings convened by them. We also have been spreading awareness through posters distributed by them.

*What is your opinion about the Bangalore forum?*

It is quite clear to all that the co-operation among the Forum members needs to be improved. So also, some Departments in the government are favourable, while others are not.

## ST. LUKE'S

### ST. LUKE'S RAGPICKERS' WELFARE PROGRAMME

**Mr. George Rathinasamy**

*How has the recent emphasis on Child Rights affected your organisation?*

It has not affected our organisation very much. It is mainly because our project has not started functioning fully.

## AFTER THE WORKSHOP ON CHILD RIGHTS (6, 7 April 1995)

(Conducted by YMCA, Bangalore)

Delegates from different parts of the country took part in the Convention. Fr. George Kollashany gave the key note address in the morning. He stressed the need for empowerment of the child through reduction of dependency, generating an ombudsman force for the child and starting a pro-child movement.

In the afternoon, the children themselves sat down to discuss what they thought of Child Rights. Apart from care, love and protection, they raised the need for drop-in-shelters at key spots in the city like the Railway Stations, Bus stands, etc.

The absence of J. H. Patel, the Deputy Chief Minister, for the valedictory function disappointed everyone. But the assurances of the Police Commissioner on the following day lighted up everyone's face. He has agreed to set up - JAP (Juvenile Aid Post), Identity Cards and stopping harassment by the Police Constables.

*What are the usual programmes?*

The boys have recreational facilities and literacy classes. Food is also given to those boys daily. We are trying to organise night shelter for the boys.

Few boys have been given skilled training and been placed. They are being followed up by me.

*What is the participation of the people in this programme?*

This project is being financially supported by the people. Apart from that the participation is very little.

*What is your participation in the Bangalore Forum for Street and Working Children?*

Some times, the Forum members ask me - hey - why are you not coming for the meetings? - I must say that I am in a helpless situation. Because, I am not able to provide facilities for the boys here. Without that why should I come there for the meeting?

*Are you involved in the activities of the CACL?*

I am not very much involved in the CACL activities.

tional training centre for street and working children. It is a joint venture of the AFSA (Association for Social Action).

*What do you say about this recent furore about Child Rights?*

Children have rights, not because UN has declared it and India has ratified it. We, here, are focussing on five major rights. Right to Childhood, Protection, to be Heard, to Clean Environment and to Opportunity.

*Are these different from what the UN has declared?*

The UN Convention is drafted in view of the Western society. The problem in the Third World is much acute and different.

*What is the main thrust in your intervention programmes?*

Our thrust is to empower the child. The child should not unnecessarily depend on the adult. Some times, the child is able to manage situations much better than you and me. But at the same time, he is open to many unhealthy events. Therefore, what we are trying to say is that, he should be properly informed. So that he is able to make the right choices.

*How about the awareness among the children about Child Rights?*

Awareness is created through organising events like the Child Labourers' Day (April 30). Secondly through the Bheema Sangha - which is an organisation for children.

*Say something more about 'Bheema Sangha'?*

'Bheema Sangha' is an organisation formed by children themselves. It consists of small units in the various parts of the city of Bangalore. At present there are 38 units. The strength of each unit varies from 20-100. They meet on every Friday in each locality under a tree or any other suitable place. There they discuss their problems or issues, like - the ill-treatment by employer, wages not given, physical abuse by

# CWC

## CONCERNED FOR WORKING CHILDREN

**Mr. Lakshapathi**

*Can you introduce CWC briefly?*

We have three major programmes. Firstly, we have an urban programme called Ankur. Secondly, we have the rural programme called the Gram Sangha. Thirdly, we have the CARD - Centre for Applied Research and Documentation in Bangalore. 'Namma Mane' is a residen-



police etc. They also have some recreational activities. Our field activists give adequate guidance to these groups. Membership is through child-to-child.

The general meeting is held here (Namma Mane) once, every month. The common issues are discussed in this meeting.

Representation to the General Body is, one child for every 5 children. The children themselves are encouraged to fight for their rights. For example they go to the local primary health centre and question the authorities if proper service is not provided. So also issues about water, ration card etc.

*What do you say about the attitude of the government to implementing Child Rights and to Voluntary Organisations?*

You know what we can expect from any government that is in power. We have no leanings to any particular party. The government is only doing some charity and is never interested to really look into the issue, whether it is the Moily government or the Deve Gowda government. In fact, we are trying to pressurise the government on this 18th (March) to come out with concrete budget allotment for the issue of Child Labour. Just giving a few thousands of rupees to an organisation does not take away their responsibilities at all. The resources like land and building are all with the government. If they need some expertise, the voluntary organisations are there to help.

*What should the government do practically?*

See, here at 'Namma Mane', we are trying to look after about 100 children. They are helped to change their life not only economically but also qualitatively. Like this, all the organisations are doing in their own way. The government can replicate these models and thus reach out to many more children. (Bangalore is estimated to have more than 50,000 street and working children).

.....our main thrust is to empower the child. Our distinguishing mark would be that of 'Sangha Formation' (forming into unions with the aim of asserting the rights) which the other organisations are not doing.

*On policy level - what do you expect from the government?*

Apart from what the Centre has declared, the State Government has not done anything in this regard. The Janata Dal government in Karnataka had talked a lot about it before the elections. But our experience during the last three months is depressing. We met the leaders many times (from CM to the lower levels). But everybody is passing the buck to the others. So we said - "Let's call all the Secretaries of the Departments and present a State Plan of Action. But that never happened because the question was - Who would convene this meeting?

*How is the approach of the CWC different from the other organisations?*

As I said earlier, our main thrust is to empower the child. Our distinguishing mark would be that of 'Sangha Formation' (forming into unions with the aim of asserting the rights) which the other organisations are not doing.

# YMCA

**Mr. Joseph Selladurai**

*Can you say something briefly about the programme for Street Children at YMCA, Bangalore?*

The Street Children programme at YMCA started in 1989. Our first objective was to provide the right to shelter - so we began with one shelter and now have two. This protects the child from police harassment, anti-social ele-

ments, dog biting etc. We also provide medical help and subsidised food. In this way, we motivate the child to learn a skill.

*How did the idea of conducting a workshop on Child Rights come about?*

One of our objectives is to create awareness among the public. Every year something is planned towards this. Besides this, every three years a national convention is held to create awareness on a large scale. The last National Level Convention was held in 1992 in which the National YMCA executives took part. But this year, we thought, if we include more children - it would be more appropriate. The theme is: Child Rights in the context of Street and Working Children. We only facilitate a discussion. Each organisation is represented by five children. Totally, we are expecting about 100 children.

We have decided on mainly four issues:

- Shelter
- Exploitation
- Prevention
- Rehabilitation

These issues will be discussed with the help of a role play. Each issue will be presented by a particular group.

*How is that the focus has shifted from the adults, to children themselves discussing their own issues?*

From the beginning itself, we have kept the child as the focus of everything. But we have been deciding for the child. But now we felt that - why not the child himself/herself discuss and come to decisions. Here, his/her participation is maximum.

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**But we have been deciding for the child. But now we felt that - why not the child himself/herself discuss and come to decisions. Here, his/her participation is maximum.**

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*How do you visualise the outcome of all this?*

We are trying to get the Deputy Chief Minister, J. H. Patel, for the valedictory function. Because, political backing is very necessary to bring about policy changes. It has to come from the Minister himself. See, during Bangarappa's time, when Alexander was Secretary - the order for nightshelter to Voluntary organisations was passed overnight. They were coming and asking us, "Sir - take the building....".

*Are the members of the Bangalore Forum united with you in this effort?*

For the conference, all the members are invited. But in the core group only five organisations are involved - YMCA, REDS, BOSCO, DEEDS and MYTHRI.

*How is your participation in CACL?*

See, our focus is on street children. CACL has a much wider scope - Child Labour in all sectors. We have lot of programmes here itself. But when they call us for meetings or ask for children to participate - we always oblige.

*Some have an opinion that the Bangalore Forum is not united at all - lot of infights - what do you say?*

Who told you this? (says laughing). As far as I know - there is nothing like that. When I was the convener, last year - we organised lot of pro-

#### **EDITORIAL TEAM**

Varghese Pallipuram  
Stephen Aloor  
Brinda S.  
Mallika  
Radha  
Shamanna

*Photographs and Design:*  
Steve AI TOUCH

grammes - local level street children conference, JJ Act Workshop etc. But there may not be active participation by all.

*What do you say about the attitude of the government?*

See, the present government has just come to power - it has not done anything in this regard. May be this conference can help in making a fresh start. Mr. J. H. Patel who is coming is powerful and more interested in these kind of things. At least, we can ask for allotting a building for night shelter. See, last time, the halls were given and then taken back. Our hall was not taken back. That time itself if all had come together we could have done something.

*How many children are being looked after here?*

Under the CG Scheme itself we are taking care of 300 children. Then we have here itself children undergoing non-formal trades such as welding, bar-bending etc.

Another proposal we have is to introduce - a mobile workshop where the children can learn skills like welding, carpentry on the street itself.

# MYTHRI

## MYTHRI SARVA SEVA SAMITHI

A brief report about the National Workshop on "Human Rights and Children" organised by **Mr. Anselm Rosario** (Director of MYTHRI).

The workshop on "Human Rights and Children" was held at SCM House, Bangalore from 27-30, March 1995. 39 participants from different parts of the country took part in the workshop. The first two days consisted of classes on Human rights with audio-visual aids. There were also group discussion.

The third and fourth days consisted of discussion on instances of child rights violation and suggestion to tackle them. The final day also consisted of a session on "Role of NGOs working for the Vulnerable groups". The NGOs can resolve violation of Child Rights through a multi-disciplinary team. They consist of the activist, psychiatrist, social workers, technicians etc.

The sharing of experiences and the discussions enriched every participant.

---

Stephen Aloor and Shamanna

### New Arrivals in NRD - BOSCO

Richardson Laurel, "Writing Strategies - Reaching diverse Audiences", New Delhi, Sage Publications, 1990.

Alan Fine Gary, Sandstram Kent, C, "Knowing Children - Participant Observation with Minors", New Delhi, Sage Publications, 1988.

H. Berne Patricia, Savary M. Louis, "Building Self-esteem in Children", Bangalore, Better Yourself Books, 1993.

INTERVIEW WITH PURUSHOTHAM (10 YEARS)  
(FROM BOSCO.)

ಶ್ರ. ಅನ್ನ ಯೆಸೆರ್ಕೆನ್ಸು

ಉ. ಶ್ರೀಯಾರ್ಥಿಯ್.

ಶ್ರ. ನಿನ್ನ ವಯಸ್ಸು ಎಷ್ಟು.

ಉ. ಮುಂದಾಗು 12-13 ವರ್ಷ.

ಶ್ರ. ನಿನ್ನ ಕೆಂದೆ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಎಷ್ಟಿಂದಾ?

ಉ. ನನ್ನ ತಾಯಿ ನುಂಬಾಗು 7-8 ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಹಿಂದೆ ಶ್ರೀಯಾರ್ಥಿಯ್. ಕೆಂದೆ ಆಗ ಎಷ್ಟಿಂದಾಗು 3 ವರ್ಷ.

ಶ್ರ. ನಿನ್ನ ಉನ್ನ ಯಾವುದು? ಎಷ್ಟು ಕುಡಿದ್ದಿಯಾ, ಕಿನು ಎಷ್ಟು ಕುಡಿದೆ?

ಉ. ಶ್ರೀ ಚೆಜ್ಜಿದ್ದು ಚೆಂಗಳೂನಲ್ಲಿ ಕ್ಷಬ್ಬನಿ ಹೇಳೆ. +ನೇಯ ತರಗತಿ ಕರೆತೆ ಶ್ರೀಲೀಗ ಹೋಸಿದ್ದೆ.

ಶ್ರ. ನಂತರ ಎನ್ನಾಯಿತೆ.

ಉ. 5 ಹಿಂದು ತರಗತಿಯಲ್ಲಿದ್ದಾಗ ಕೆಂದೆ ಶ್ರೀ ಶಿಕ್ಷಿತಿ, ಮೇವೆ ಕೀಲಸರ್ಕಿಂಹು (ಉತ್ತರೀ ಬಂದು ಮುಗ್ದಿಪಷ್ಟು) ನೋಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲೆಂದು ಸುಪರ್ಗಾರ್ಡ್ ಕೆಂಪುನಿನಿಗರು. ಅಗ ನಷ್ಟ ವಯಸ್ಸು ಬೆ 10 ವರ್ಷ. ಅಲ್ಲ ಮುಂದಾಗು 2 ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಪಿಲ ಇದೆ. ಅಗ ನಷ್ಟ ಕೆಂದೆ ಶ್ರಾಗದ ಬರೆಯುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ನಂತರ ಆ ಯೆಸೆರ್ಕೆ ಯತ್ನಿರದವರು ನಷ್ಟ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಎನ್ನೋ ದೂರತ್ವದ್ದರು. ಅಗ ನಾಮ ಮೇನೆ ಕೀಲನೆ ಹಂಡಿಬಾರದೆಂದ ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಿನ್ನನು ಚೆಂಗಳೂನೆ ಬಾಲೀಕೆ ಕಷಣಿಕಿದರು. ಹೀಗ ನಾಮ ಎವನ್ನೇ ಚೆಂಗಳೂನು ನೋಡಿ.

ಶ್ರ. ಬಾನ್ನೀ ಮನೆ ನಿನ್ನ ಹೋಗ ಗೂತ್ತಾಯಿತೆ, ಇತ್ತೀಗ ಹೋಗ ಬಂದು ನೋಡಿ.

ಉ. ನಾನು ಸುಪರ್ಗಾರ್ಡಿಂದ ಯಾವನ್ನೇ ಬಂದಾಗ ನಷ್ಟ ಕೆಂದೆ ಹೆಲ್ಲಾ ಕೆಂದು ಕೂಂಡು ಮನೆ ಖಾಲ ಯಾಡಿದರು. ಅದ ಹೆಲ್ಲಾ ನಾನು ಮೆಹೆಸ್ತಿಕಿಲ್ಲ ಕೀಂವೇಸಿದೆ ಧಿಯುಂಪರ ಬಳ ಬಂದೆ. ಅಲ್ಲಿಂದ ಚೋರಾಬ್ಬ ಯಾಡುಗೆ ನಷ್ಟನು ಬಾಹ್ಯಾಗ ರರಹಿತಂತೆ.

ಶ್ರಾಗದ ತಿಂಗಳಿಂದ ಬಾನ್ನೀ ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಾನಿಯಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದೇನೆ.

ಕಿನು ಇಲ್ಲ ನಾನು ಒಮ್ಮೆತ್ತಿದ್ದೇನೆ, ಇತ್ತೀಗ ಬರುವ ಮೊದಲು ಮೆಹೆಸ್ತಿಕಿನಲ್ಲಿ ನಾಮ 6-8 ತಿಂಗಳ ಶಿಲ್ಪ ಬಣಿಷಣ ಯಾರುವರೆ ಜೂತೆಯ್ಲೇ ತ್ವಿಹಿಂಣ ಯಾರುವರೆ ಹೊತ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರಗೆ ನಿನಿಯ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದೆ.

ಶ್ರ. ಮರ್ಕ್ಯೂರಿ ಕೀಲಬು ಯರ್ಕುಗಳಿಂದ ಎಂದು 3 ಕುದ್ದಿದ್ದಿಯೋ - ತಿಳಿದಿದ್ದಿಲ್ಲ ಯಾವುದು.

ಉ. ಮರ್ಕ್ಯೂರಿ ಯರ್ಕುಗಳಿಂದ ಎಂದು ಕೀಂಪುತ್ತಿನೆ, ನರಕಿರದವರು ಮರ್ಕ್ಯೂರಿಗಿಂಹು ಶಿಲ್ಪಿಗಳು. ಅಸ್ಟ್ರೋಕೆಂಪಿನ್ನು, ಅನಾಧ ಮರ್ಕ್ಯೂರಿ ಅಕ್ಕಿಯನಿಂಜ ನೀಲಿಂಬ್ಬ ಯಾಡಿದರೆ. ಅದರೆ ಅನೇಕ ನರಕಿರಿ ಶಿಲ್ಪಿಗಳಲ್ಲ ಕೆಷ್ಟುಗ ಹೊರ್ತಿಕಾಮಿಲ್ಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಅದೇ ಶ್ರೀಪೀಠ ಶಿಲ್ಪಿಗಳ ಒಕ್ಕಣ ಮರ್ಕ್ಯೂರಿ ಬಯಳಿನ್ನು ಶಿಲ್ಪಿತ್ತರೆ. ಚೀಕಿಲುಮರ್ಕ್ಯೂರಿಗಳ ಕರ್ಕಿರಿ ಎನು ಶಿಲ್ಪಿತ್ತಿಯ ಶ್ರೀಗಿಂಡಿದೆ ಎಂದು ನಿನ್ನ ವಿಷಿದ್ದು. ಶ್ರೀತ್ವ ಲೋಕಪ್ರಾರ್ಥಿ ಗಳಿಂದ ಈ ಮರ್ಕ್ಯೂರಿ ಬಯಳಿನ್ನು ಮುಂದಿನ್ನು ಬಯಳಿನ್ನು ಶಿಲ್ಪಿಯೆ ಮರ್ಕ್ಯೂರಿ ಕೀಲನೆ ಅಂದರೆ ವೀರರ ಯಾರುವರಂತೆ ಕೀಲಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಹೊಡಿಸಿದ್ದರೆ. ಈ ಬಿಂದು ಮರ್ಕ್ಯೂರಿ ಕೆಷ್ಟುಲ್ಲಿಯ ಯಾವಾಯನ್ನು ನೀನಿಲು,

ಬ್ರಾಹ್ಮಿ, ಮಹಾರಾಜೆ ಹಿಂದ್ರೇ ಯಾತ್ರೆಗೆ ಬ್ರಾಹ್ಮಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರೆಗೆ ಬ್ರಾಹ್ಮಿನಲ್ಲಿ ನೀರಿನ್ನು ಬೆಳೆ ತಿಳಿಲ್ಲ. ಬ್ರಾಹ್ಮಿ ಯಾತ್ರೆನಲ್ಲಿ ದುಡಿಯುವು ಮರ್ಕಿಣಿ ದೀಪ್ಯಾ ನಿರ್ಬಂಧ ಮುಂದಿಲ್ಲ ಬರುತ್ತಿದ್ದು ಹೇಗೆ. ಮರ್ಕಿಣಿಗೆ ಒಡಿವ ಹಳ್ಳಿದೆ, ನಿರ್ಬಂಧ ಹಳ್ಳಿ ಹೊರಿಯ ಬೇಕು. ಮರ್ಕಿಣಿಗೆ ಒಡಿವ ಹಳ್ಳಿದೆ, ಅಂದುವ ಹಳ್ಳಿದೆ. ಅದರೆ ಈ ಹಳ್ಳಿಗಳು ಎಲ್ಲ ಮರ್ಕಿಣಿಗೆ ನಿರ್ಬಂಧ ದೀರ್ಘಿಯುವಿಲ್ಲ. ನಿಯ ದೀರ್ಘಿದಲ್ಲಿ ಮರ್ಕಿಣಿ ನ್ಯಾಯಿ ಬಯಳ ರೀಂದ್ರಿಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಮೀರ್ಪು ಯಾತ್ರೆಗೆ ಶ್ರೀಲಿಂಗಿ ಬೇಕಿರೆ.

ಶ್ರೀ. ಈ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರ ಶಿರಣಿಗಳೇನು ಈಗು ಹೇಗೆ ಉತ್ತರವ ಹೇಡಿದೆ ಬಯಾದು. ಈ ತಂಡಿ ತಾಯಿಯರು ಒಕ್ಕಾರೆಯ ಬೇಕಿರು. ಮಂಧ್ರಾಭಿನಿದ ಉಭಾಗ ಯಾತ್ರಿಕಿ ಶಿರಣಿ ಬಾರಿದು. ಮರ್ಕಿಣಿಗಳನ್ನು ದುಡಿಯುವುದರ್ಥ ಶಿಖರಿನ ಬಾರಿದು. ಶಿರಣಿ ಅಂತಿಮ ತಾಯಿ ತಂಡಿಯರು ತಮ್ಮ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ಶೀಂಬಳಿಂದ ಮರ್ಕಿಣಿನ್ನು ಶಿಖರಿನ ನಡೆ, ಈಗು ದುಡಿಯುವುದರ್ಥ ಶಿಖರಿನ ನಡೆ. ಈಗು ಮಂಧ್ರಾಭಿನಿದ ಉತ್ತರವ ಬುಕಿ ಗ್ರಾಹ ಬೇಕಿರು. ಬ್ರಾಹ್ಮಿ ಮರ್ಕಿಣಿಗೆ ಶ್ರೀ ಅರ್ಜನಿಂದ ನಂದಣಣಿ ಬೇಕಿರು. ಈಗ ಮರ್ಕಿಣಿ ಯಲವಾಡ ಬೆಂಧಿಂಬರು ಶ್ವಾಸ ಶಿಖರಿನ ನಾಗ ಹೊರಿಲ್ಲಾಗಳ ನೀರಿನ್ನು ಕಾಡಿ. ಅನೀರಿ ಹೊರಿಲ್ಲಾಗ ಯಾಲ್ಲಾರೆಯ ನಂಬಳ ಶ್ರೀಧಿತ್ವಾದಿಲ್ಲ. ಈ ಉತ್ತರ ಶ್ರೀಧಿತ್ವಾದಿಗಳು ಅಲ್ಲಬೇಕಿರು.

ಕಂದಕೇವ ಯಾಡಿದವರು

ರಘು ಯಾವೇ



# NEWS IN BRIEF

**July 1994**

## Volunteers from Holland

Mr. Mari and Mr. Meindert were two dedicated volunteers from Holland. They spent 6 months with us at BOSCO sharing experiences with the children and staff as well.

## Inter-Agency Staff Meeting

About 100 staff members belonging to various Agencies met at Y.M.C.A., Bangalore to evaluate and plan the activities of the Bangalore, Forum for Street and Working Children. Each organisation portrayed their activities through a song or a street play. Besides there were lot of interaction among the staff members.

**August 1994**

## JJA Functionaries Training Programme

A year long spaced out Training Program for the officials working in government institutions for children is being conducted by BOSCO, under the aegis of the Department of Women and Child Welfare, Karnataka. There are 60 participants divided into 2 groups of 30 each.

3 Training courses of 3 days each have been conducted during the months of August, October & January '95. There were sessions on the theory and practice of child development, psychology, institutional care and rationale of non-institutional approaches, legislations pertaining to children, the officials' personal attitudes, skills to be acquired to effectively work with children.

## Extra-Ordinary visitation of the Regional Superior

Rev. Fr. Thomas Panakkezham SDB, the Regional Superior of the Salesian world came for the scheduled visit to Bosco. He appreciated the good work being done and also gave suggestions for betterment of the Project.

## National Meeting on Prison Involvement

There was a meeting at ISI, Bangalore, for those involved in the prison apostolate. Fr. K.D. Varghese and Ms. Brinda attended the meeting. Fr. K.D. Varghese was elected Co-ordinator for Bangalore.

BOSCO was already in touch with the prisoners at the Central Jail, Bangalore.

## Independence Day Celebrations

This year too, hundreds of children gathered at the Magadi Road School grounds to celebrate the Independence Day. After the flag hoist, there were enjoyable sports, games and a grand lunch.

## Salesian National Consultation on Street Children

A National Consultation on Street Children was held at Kochi, Kerala, as the issue of street children was becoming more prominent for the Salesians in India. BOSCO was represented by Fr. Varghese Pallipuram and Fr. Binny Kumpukal.

## Cycle Rally to Hosur

As part of the Awareness Campaign, the Cycle Rally was held on 28, August to Hosur. Hosur is an industrial town, 40 kms away from Bangalore, bordering Karnataka and Tamilnadu. Large number of Children run away to Bangalore, in search of a living, from this suburban town.

## September 1994

### Street Educator's Day

September 5th is celebrated as Street Educator's Day at BOSCO. This year, a half day programme was organised at BOSCO. Radha Srinivas Murthy and Stephen Aloor presented research papers, *Family situations of Street Children and Phenomenon of Resilience and ways to promote them in Street Children*, respectively.

### Medical Camp

A medical camp was organised by the Youth for Youth for the Children at Bosco Yuvodaya. The doctors and nurses who came from Marthas Hospital Bangalore did a commendable service.

### CACL-K (National Convention on Child Labour)

CACL- Campaign Against Child Labour organised a 3 days' convention of Child Labourers from all over the Nation,. About 1100 children and 150 staff and volunteers participated in this Convention held at Madras from 18-20 December '94. The children sat at the panels, discussed in groups, put up street theaters and role plays about their plight and their demands. A Memorandum was drafted by the children seeking resolution for their immediate needs and restore back their childhood. The BOSCO contingent too took part actively in this Convention.

## October 1994

### Orientation Programmes for BOSCO Boys

Orientation programmes were organised for each Area and Centre at Kristu Jyoti College, Bangalore. The following table gives the details.

Area/Centre	Dates	No. of Boys
Bus Stand	3,4 Sept	50
Yuva Kendra, Bosco Mane	10, 11 Sept	58
K.R. Market	17, 18 Sept	34
New Market	24, 25 Sept	36
Bakshi Garden	1, 2 Oct	31
Gandhinagar, Yuvodaya	15, 16 Oct	40
Shivaji Nagar, Magadi Road, K.R. Puram	22, 23 Oct	60
Railway Station, JJR Nagar	29, 30 Oct	144
<b>Total</b>		<b>453</b>

### N.N.F. Meeting at Calcutta

Annual National NGO Forum meeting took place at Calcutta this year. From BOSCO, Rovina, Brinda and Fr. Varghese Pallipuram attended the meeting. We also presented the draft of the Police Curriculum to the delegates of the NNF Meeting.

### National Senior Police Officials Meet

BOSCO is preparing a Curriculum for Training of the Police in India. A day-long consultation of Senior Police Officials from 10 different cities of India was held at Bangalore. This activity was convened by Mr. R. Ramalingam, DGP, Karnataka and BOSCO presented the draft of this curriculum for the Police, emphasising their attitudinal change towards the children caught in difficult circumstances. This is the first venture of NGO preparing a Training Curriculum for the Police, in the country, especially related to their intervention with children.

## Blessing of BOSCO Mane

A new building has taken shape at Chamrajpet, Bangalore. Its blessing was held on 24th October by the visiting Regional Superior, Fr. Thomas Panakezham SDB. The structure can house regular children, who have decided to come away from street, street children, Salesian personnel and skill training facilities.

**November 1994**

## BOSCO Kala-Samskruthika Sangama

A new group called the BOSCO Kala-Samskruthika Sangama was formed at BOSCO in order to promote cultural activities. The first task it took up was to formulate a BOSCO Anthem.

## Fr. Varghese Pallipuram to Japan

Fr. Varghese Pallipuram was one of the five members chosen to represent Indian delegation to Japan. The delegation consisted of 3 government officials and 2 NGO representatives. The meeting was organised by a Foundation in Japan which works for the welfare and education of the Asian people. The thrust of the programme was to give an exposure to the delegates with regard to the social welfare activities in Japan.

## Children's Day Celebrations

This year, the Children's Day (Nov. 14) was abound with many activities. While, BOSCO organised its own celebrations, some representative children took part in the celebrations organised by the State government at the Cubbon Park. The children took part in a short play, painting and other activities.

## Master Santhosh receives Bravery Award

Master Santhosh, a very quite boy from the City Market, saved a girl from drowning in a well. He was one of the BOSCO boys. His

name was forwarded to the State government for Bravery Award. On Children's Day (Nov. 14) the governor of Karnataka, Kursheed Alam Khan presented the Bravery Award to Master Santhosh. He is 16 years old. It was a day of rejoicing for the Boscovites.

## National Convention on the Rights of the Child

The Concerned for Working Children (CWC), Bangalore organised a workshop on Child Rights. Some of our children and the staff participated in this workshop. The convention highlighted the denial of rights to Child Labourers and strategies to realise them.

**December 1994**

## Celebration of International Year of the Family and Child Rights Day

'The Family' and 'Child Rights' were highlighted on 11, December through a one day programme at the Cubbon Park. Over 700 children participated in the various events (street play, chance games, poster exhibition etc.). The programme was co-ordinated by Ms. Radha Murthy.

## Half-Yearly evaluation

The half-yearly evaluation (June-December) was held on 21, December.

## Christmas get-together for Staff & Volunteers

The Christmas get-together for the staff and volunteers was held on 22 December at BOSCO Mane. 75 volunteers also took part in the celebrations.

## Christmas Celebration at BOSCO

Like every year, this year too, Christmas at BOSCO was celebrated with much colour and fanfare. Nearly 1000 children took part in the celebrations. Everyone was given gift packets besides a grand dinner. The funds were raised from the local business community.

## January 1995

### New Year Day Celebrations

The Youth for Youth of BOSCO organised a get-together for the children of BOSCO Yuvakendra and BOSCO Mane on the New Year Day. About 100 children participated in the Cultural Programme and the sumptuous meals. Gifts were given to the children.

### 'Habitat' Meeting at Delhi

The HABITAT, from Bombay, organised a meeting at Delhi to discuss about the issue of shelter to the homeless. Silvy, one of our shelter co-ordinators, participated in this meeting.

### Street Exposure Programme for IAS Trainees

For the first time, two batches of IAS trainees from Delhi had a street exposure programme at BOSCO.

### Don Bosco Inter-Agency Cultural Meet

31, January is the feast of the Founder, Don Bosco, who had started to work for the street children in the Nineteenth Century.

The second DBIACM was held on this day. Nearly 200 children from seven similar organisations took part in the Cultural Meet. There were contests in short plays, singing, dancing and painting. The BOSCO contingent won the overall championship for the second time. The friends and well-wishers too were invited to share the joy and happiness of the day.

## February 1995

### Orientation Programme for Action Research Students at BOSCO Mane

Fr. Sunny Uppan and Ms. Mallika from BOSCO are participating in the Action Re-

search co-ordinated by Fr. George which is sponsored by Indra University, Amsterdam.

### Jesuit Volunteers

Bros. Prakash and Viegas did a commendable service by being with the children at BOSCO for a month. We are grateful to them for their service.

### Study Camp for 7th std Boys

The yearly study Camp for Bosco children wanting to write Academic exams was held at BOSCO Mane. About 10 children attended this camp.

### Thank You

We thank Bros. Mathew and Jossy from Sonada, for the self sacrificing service to the children at BOSCO for about two months.

### Going on Pilgrimage

The children from Railway Station Area collected money on their own (Rs. 200/- each) and went on a pilgrimage to the Velankanni Shrine, and other temples in Tamil Nadu.

### On an excursion

The children from BOSCO Mane and BOSCO Yuvakendra were taken for an excursion to Ooty and Mysore. They really enjoyed these two days of fun and relaxation.

## March 1995

### Bosco 'Makkala Dinacharane'

This year, the Bosco 'Makkala Dinacharane' was held at Jesuit Novitiate premises on the Bannarghatta Road. About 400 children thronged this school like wild bees. They had an enjoyable Day with sports, chance games, film shows etc. The inaugural function was chaired by Fr. Thomas Myladoor, the Provincial who also sponsored the whole programme. We thank the Jesuits for their kind concern for the children on the streets.





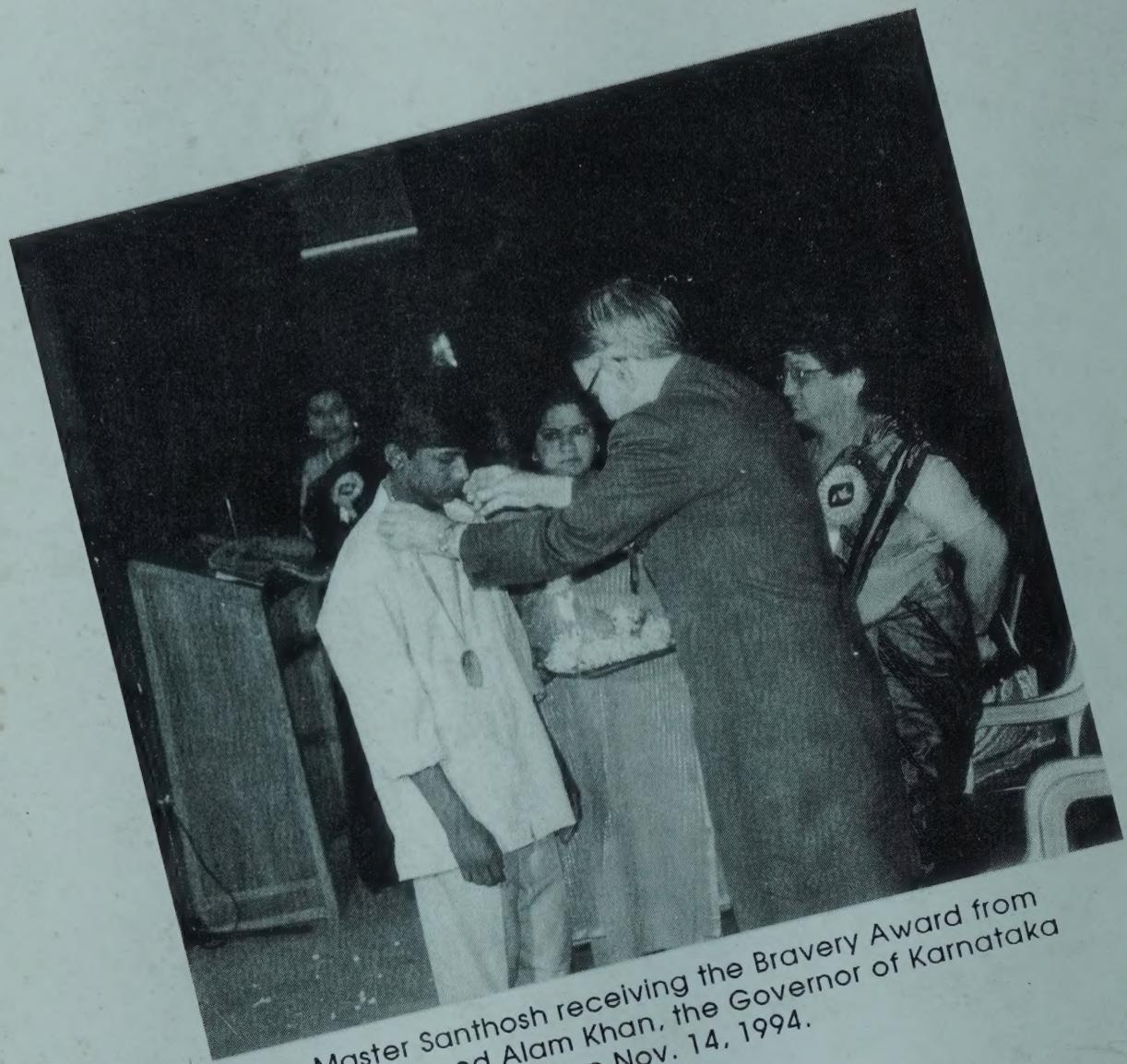
Independence Day Celebrations.  
'Child Rights and Family Day' organised by BOSCO at Bal Bhavan.



With the Governor of Karnataka on the occasion of UNICEF Report's release.



Its Muqala.... Chotu and his team



Master Santhosh receiving the Bravery Award from  
Mr. Kursheed Alam Khan, the Governor of Karnataka  
on Nov. 14, 1994.

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**BOSCO**

**BANGALORE ONIYAVARA SEVA COOTA**

